



Cheryl Isaac, Contributor | 7 August, 2011.

Need Funding For A Startup With Global Appeal? Start Up In Chile



Chile wants to become the innovation and entrepreneurship hub of Latin America and they're certainly moving forward to make this happen.

In April, 110 startups were chosen and given one-year visas to Chile. The goal? Start an innovative business, with a global mindset, that will also help Chile.

What better way to help entrepreneurs hone in their creative juices? An exotic adventure coupled with creativity could just be innovation heaven. At least this is what Chile hopes for anyway.

Shonika Proctor, an entrepreneur who left America to live and work on a start-up in Chile, certainly thinks that it was an opportunity worth exploring. When I asked her why she decided to go to Chile, she answered candidly, "Chile chose me." Her business partner had accidentally come across her, while googling a famous Proctor, and the conversation about joining Startup Chile started.

The Chilean government has made it easier for entrepreneurship to find its way to Chile. Startup Chile, a program of the Chilean government, was founded to "attract world-class early stage entrepreneurs to start their businesses in Chile."

When I asked Shonika what she thinks about living and doing business in Chile, she tells me, "I see my impact in real time." Shonika, also a teen entrepreneur coach and founder of Renegade CEOs here in America, remains inspired by the Chilean's government initiative to have more experimental, and social innovative entrepreneurial programs in high schools by the year 2014.